Motivations for Bill Introduction

Martin Brunner aims at solving the puzzle of why opposition parties or government backbenchers propose legislation even though the chance to influence policy outcomes in this manner is almost nil. He argues that instead of influencing policies directly most parliamentary bills serve different purposes: They are used in order to signal own policy positions and to show alternatives to government policies. Or they point at topics that rank high on the public agenda but low on the government agenda. They can also be a means for individual Members of Parliament to build up an independent personal profile. Using formal models and comparative empirical evidence from Belgium, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom the author shows that parliamentary initiatives of opposition and backbenchers are not simply "much ado about nothing", but the result of vote-seeking motivations.

Feature
► Publication in the field of social sciences

Contents

Field of interest
Social Sciences, general

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
S. C. Humphreys, Oxford, UK; R. G. Wagner, Karl Jasper Centre, Heidelberg, Germany (Eds)

Modernity’s Classics

This book presents critical studies of modern reconfigurations of conceptions of the past, of the classical, and of national heritage. Its scope is global (China, India, Egypt, Iran, Judaism, the Greco-Roman world) and inter-disciplinary (textual philology, history of art and architecture, philosophy, gardening).

Features

- Presents critical studies of modern reconfigurations of conceptions of the past
- Interdisciplinary and global scope
- Emphasizes the complexity of the modernization process

Contents


Fields of interest

Cultural Studies; Classical Studies; Archaeology

Target groups

Research

Discount group

Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2012

2013. XIII, 327 p. 43 illus. (Transcultural Research – Heidelberg Studies on Asia and Europe in a Global Context) Softcover

$179.00

ISBN 978-3-642-33070-4

S. K. Mitra, University of Heidelberg, Germany (Ed)

Citizenship as Cultural Flow

Structure, Agency and Power

Features

- Addresses the very topical subject of citizen making
- Provides a unique analysis of when and why citizenship has taken root in India
- Supplies the basis for comparative analysis across South Asian cases and between India and the European Union

Contents


Fields of interest

Cultural Studies; Human Geography; Regional and Cultural Studies

Target groups

Research

Discount group

Professional Non-Medical

Due January 2013

2013. VIII, 284 p. 23 illus., 12 in color. (Transcultural Research – Heidelberg Studies on Asia and Europe in a Global Context) Softcover

$179.00

ISBN 978-3-642-34567-8

G. Olson, Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA, USA

Empathy Imperiled

Capitalism, Culture, and the Brain

The most critical factor explaining the disjunction between empathy’s revolutionary potential and today’s empathically-impaired society is the interaction between the brain and our dominant political culture. The evolutionary process has given rise to a hard-wired neural system in the primate brain and particularly in the human brain. This book argues that the crucial missing piece in this conversation is the failure to identify and explain the dynamic relationship between an empathy gap and the hegemonic influence of neoliberal capitalism, through the analysis of the college classroom, the neoliberal state, media, film and photo images, marketing of products, militarization, mass culture and government policy. This book will contribute to an empirically grounded dissent from capitalism’s narrative about human nature. Empathy is putting oneself in another’s emotional and cognitive shoes and then acting in a deliberate, appropriate manner.

Contents


Fields of interest

Political Science, general; Political Theory; Neuro-pychology

Target groups

Research

Discount group

Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2012

2013. IV, 141 p. (SpringerBriefs in Political Science, a Global Context) Softcover

$49.95

ISBN 978-1-4614-6116-6
**Handbook of the Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healing**

**A Blueprint for the 21st Century**

**Contents**


**Fields of interest**

Sociology; general; Public Health; Gesundheitswesen

**Target groups**

Research

**Discount group**

Professional Non-Medical

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**Terrorism and Violent Conflict**

**Women’s Agency, Leadership, and Responses**

This book explores how gender intersects with political violence, and particularly terrorism. We ask how gender relations and understandings of femininity and masculinity influence political violence, which includes politics related to terrorism, state terrorism, and genocide. We investigate how women cope with and influence the politics of terrorism and genocide. The book’s goals are descriptive and analytical. We (1) describe in what ways women are present (and/or perceived as absent) in political contexts involving violence, and (2) analyze what gender assumptions, identities, and frames women face and themselves express and act upon regarding political violence encountered in their lives. The manuscript is divided into seven chapters: introduction, women as victims/survivors of violence, women as perpetrators of violence, women in social movements responding to violence, women politicians leading policy regarding violence, the public opinion of women and men concerning violence, and a conclusion. Each chapter explores the intersection between gender and terrorism through the lens of the chapter focus.

**Contents**


**Fields of interest**

Political Science; general; Gender Studies; Social Sciences; general

**Target groups**

Research

**Discount group**

Professional Non-Medical

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**Steps toward A Planning Framework For Elder Care In The Arab World**

This book reviews the elder care literature pertaining to the Arab world and proposes steps that can be taken to improve the health and quality of life of older people in this region. Organized in three main sections (Program Assessment, Program Planning, Conclusions and Recommendations), the book addresses such topics as developing a conceptual framework; Arab world elder demographics; quality of life issues; demand for services; training issues; training capacity and capabilities; and conclusions and recommendations for improving the health of older persons in the Arab world.

**Features**

- Reviews the elder care literature of the Arab world
- Offers steps toward planning a framework for improving elder health and health care in the Arab world
- Will stimulate further discussion and debate to extend the comprehensiveness of the ideas expressed herein
- This Brief is a partial response to the WHO call for increased information on caring for the health of elderly Arabs

**Contents**


**Fields of interest**

Aging; Health Psychology; Demography

**Target groups**

Research

**Discount group**

Professional Non-Medical
Community Disaster Vulnerability
Theory, Research, and Practice

Disaster vulnerability is rapidly increasing on a global scale, particularly for those populations which are the historical clients of the social work profession. These populations include the very young and very old, the poor, ethnic and racial minorities, and those with physical or mental disabilities. Social workers are increasingly providing services in disasters during response and recovery periods, and are using community interventions to reduce disaster vulnerability. There is a need for a cogent theory of vulnerability and research that addresses improved community disaster practice and community resilience.

Features
- The first volume to combine vulnerability research with social work practice
- Integrates vulnerability and resiliency theories within a stress and coping framework
- Presents material covering a wide spectrum from the individual to the societal levels
- Offers research design methods

Contents

Fields of interest
Social Work; Community and Environmental Psychology; Social Policy

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical